

SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT FACT SHEET

Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Bureau of Substance Abuse Services

This fact sheet contains information about the impact of alcohol and other drug use in the Thirteenth Essex Representative District. Admission data were reported to the Bureau of Substance Abuse Services (BSAS) Substance Abuse Management Information System in FY 2003.

Residents of Thirteenth Essex Representative District

Characteristics of Admissions

In FY 2003, there were 115,896 admissions to licensed substance abuse treatment services in all of Massachusetts; 1% (1,207) of these admissions reside in the Thirteenth Essex Representative District. 5% (66) of admissions from the Thirteenth Essex Representative District were under 17 years of age. **Please note that these statistics represent only individual admissions, and represent a figure lower than the actual number of constituents in need of treatment services.** In FY 2003, admissions to all residential and outpatient substance abuse treatment services from the Thirteenth Essex Representative District reported the following characteristics:

- 69% were male and 31% were female.
- 64% were between the ages of 21-39.
- 90% were white non-Latino, 3% were black non-Latino, 4% were Latino, and 3% were other racial categories.
- 71% were never married, 10% were married, and 19% reported not to be married now.
- 25% had less than high school education, 55% completed high school, and 20% had more than high school education.
- 27% were employed.
- 24% were homeless.
- 33% had prior mental health treatment.

Primary Substance of Use

At admission clients also identify a “primary drug” of use that is the substance for which the client is seeking treatment. Table 1 compares the proportional distribution of primary drugs in Massachusetts with that for the Thirteenth Essex Representative District.

Table 1					
Primary Drug by District and State FY 2003					
	Alcohol	Heroin	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack
District	36%	36%	8%	4%	1%
State	43%	38%	6%	4%	4%

Substances Used in Past Year

Upon entering treatment, each client is asked to report ALL substances used in the past year (12 months) prior to admission. Admissions frequently report using more than one substance within the year. The use of more than one psychoactive substance, such as alcohol and marijuana, is referred to as ‘polydrug’ or ‘polysubstance’ use.

Table 2 shows ALL substances which clients reported using in the year prior to admission, as well as the prevalence of injection drug users (or IDU's), individuals who use a needle to ingest cocaine, crack, heroin or another drug to get high.

Table 2							
Annual Admissions by Substance Used FY 1995 – FY 2003							
Thirteenth Essex Representative District							
	Total	Alcohol	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack	Heroin	IDU
FY '95	947	754	273	294	249	257	170
FY '96	1,001	752	247	267	219	371	293
FY '97	821	622	228	202	106	278	206
FY '98	806	625	217	217	93	256	161
FY '99	682	525	212	182	79	187	148
FY '00	982	692	249	223	90	328	238
FY '01	947	685	281	240	70	304	193
FY '02	1,420	962	360	348	93	601	385
FY '03	1,207	780	339	309	89	489	324